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University of California
College of Agriculture
Agricultural Experiment Station
Berkeley, California

SEASONAL LABOR NEEDS FOR CALIFORNIA CROPS

ALAMEDA COUNTY

Progress Report No. 1

by


R. L. Adams

Preliminary -- Subject to Correction

October, 1936

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Progress Report #1

Seasonal Labor Needs for California Crops

Alameda County

Scope of Presentation.-- The following considerations govern the presentation of this progress report:

1. The data are confined to the area indicated above.
2. The data are confined solely to crops, livestock needs being ignored.
3. The findings apply only to occasional or seasonal labor requirements as distinguished from labor contributed by farm operators and by workers employed on a year-round or regular basis of employment.
4. The presentation includes the so-called migratory transient, or roving workers which comprise an important source of help needed in connection with certain tasks at "peak" times which seasonally arise in connection with many field, truck, and fruit crops commercially produced in California.
5. This report is confined to California's need for seasonal agricultural workers because of the more pressing problems liable to arise in connection therewith. A later study is planned which will deal with other kinds of labor involved in the production of California's many crops.

Brief Description of the Area.-- Alameda County is one of the central coast counties of California, lying on the eastern shore of San Francisco Bay, and about five miles east and directly across the Bay from the city of San Francisco. The northern boundary is a range of hills which divide it from Contra Costa County, on the east it joins San Joaquin County in the hills of the Coast Range, on the south it is bounded by Santa Clara County, (the boundary line crossing the lower end of the Santa Clara Valley extending eastward into the hills of the Coast Range) and on the west by San Francisco Bay.

There are two main farming districts in the County -- one is along the shore of the Bay in the southwest portion, and is about 4 by 24 miles in extent. Most of the vegetable and orchard crops are in this area. It includes the country around San Leandro, Hayward, Niles, Centerville, Irvington, and Mission San Jose. The other district includes the Livermore and Amador Valleys, and is from 3 to 5 miles wide and 15 miles long. It is largely used for production of barley and wheat, hay, alfalfa, wine grapes, and to a limited extent, fruit and vegetables. It surrounds the towns of Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin.

The County contains an area of 468,480 acres. The latest available estimates of crop acreages are as follows:

	<u>Acreage</u>
*Field crops	64,570
Vegetable crops†	22,305
Orchard crops‡	12,222
Total	99,097

* Field crop acreage in 1934 from 1935 Census -- Preliminary Report.

Progress Report II

General Labor Needs for California Crops

Alameda County

Scope of Investigation -- The following considerations govern the preparation of this progress report:

1. The data are confined to the area indicated above.
2. The data are confined solely to crops, livestock and dairy products.
3. The findings apply only to seasonal or temporary labor requirements as distinguished from labor contributed by farm operators and by workers employed on a year-round or regular basis of employment.

4. The present study includes the so-called migratory transient, or roving, workers which comprise an important source of help needed in connection with certain tasks of "peak" times which seasonally arise in connection with many fruits, truck, and dairy crops commercially produced in California.

5. This report is confined to California's needs for seasonal agricultural workers because of the more pressing problems likely to arise in connection with the crop season which will deal with other kinds of labor.

6. The present study is limited to the area of Alameda County, one of the central counties of California. It is the largest county in the State and is one of the most important agricultural areas. It is the only county in the State which has a large area of land under cultivation. It is the only county in the State which has a large area of land under cultivation. It is the only county in the State which has a large area of land under cultivation.

7. The present study is limited to the area of Alameda County, one of the central counties of California. It is the largest county in the State and is one of the most important agricultural areas. It is the only county in the State which has a large area of land under cultivation. It is the only county in the State which has a large area of land under cultivation. It is the only county in the State which has a large area of land under cultivation.

The County contains an area of 468,400 acres. The latest available estimates of crop acreage are as follows:

Alameda	
Field crops	24,270
Vegetable crops	27,305
Orchard crops	15,450
Total	67,025

† Vegetable acreage in 1934 based largely on data from Federal-State Crop Reporting Service, California Department of Agriculture, Sacramento -- "Acreage of Specified Vegetable Crops by Counties - 1934," C. M. Shiller, with some additions by Gordon Laing, Agricultural Commissioner, Alameda County.

‡ Orchard acreages are from Gordon Laing, Agricultural Commissioner of Alameda County, and represent conditions in 1935.

The farming district in the southwest portion along the Bay lies generally below the 100 foot contour, but the adjoining hills rising to heights of several hundred feet are cultivated for peas and other crops.

The Livermore and Amador valleys lie generally between 400 feet and 500 feet in elevation; while the surrounding hilly country is farmed to hay and grain to an elevation of 1,000 feet or more.

Several different soils are represented. The district along the Bay is mostly loam and clay loam with some areas of clay and adobe, and are mostly included in two main soil series. The soils of the Livermore and Amador valleys are more varied, and range from gravelly-sandy loams to clay loams and adobe, and represent four or five different series. The soils are mostly six feet or more in depth in the valleys and three feet or more on the hills.

Crops, Acreages, and Production.-- The basis used in calculating occasional or seasonal need for labor in addition to that furnished by farm operators and regularly employed workers, appears in table 1.

TABLE 1

Basis for Calculating Seasonal Labor Requirements -- Alameda County

Crops	Acreage	Production
Field crops: *		
Sugar beets	3,326	41,460 tons
Hay, other than alfalfa		
Grain hay	17,404	20,222 tons
Wild hay	10,763	11,666 tons
Other hay	185	--
Hay alfalfa	7,233	19,042 tons
Barley	16,511	243,979 bushels
Wheat	6,720	88,450 bushels
Oats	1,851	32,688 bushels
Corn	8	188 bushels
Potatoes	569	73,140 bushels
Vegetable crops: †		
Beans (string)	100	--
Cabbage	150	
Cauliflower	2,100	525,000 crates
Cucumbers, pickling	397	1,600 tons
Garlic	50	2,000 sacks
Lettuce	150	22,500 crates
Onions	20	4,000 sacks
Peas, canning	1,000	--
Peas, market	9,000	500,000 hampers
Rhubarb	1,479	370,000 boxes (20 lbs. each)

(Table continued on next page)

Vegetable crops in 1934 based largely on 5 to 10 years' experience. Reporting Service, California Department of Agriculture, Sacramento - "Annual Report of Specialized Vegetable Crops by Counties - 1934", C. H. Smith, with assistance of Gordon B. King, Agricultural Commissioner, Alameda County.

† Orchard surveys are from Gordon B. King, Agricultural Commissioner of Alameda County, and represent conditions in 1933.

The farming district in the southwest portion along the Bay line extends below the 100 foot contour, but the adjoining hills rising to heights of several hundred feet are cultivated for grain and other crops.

The Livermore and Amador valleys lie generally between 400 feet and 500 feet in elevation, while the surrounding hills are mostly in excess of 500 feet to an elevation of 1,000 feet or more.

Several different soils are represented. The district along the Bay is mostly low and clay loam with some areas of clay and silt, and one mostly included in two main soil series. The soils of the Livermore and Amador valleys are more varied, and range from gravelly sandy loam to clay loam and silt, and represent four or five different series. The soils are mostly silty and more in depth in the valleys and three feet or more on the hills.

Crops, Acreages, and Production. -- The basis used in calculating acreages of certain crops for labor is in addition to that furnished by farm operators and is generally compiled from reports, appears in Table 1.

TABLE 1

Basic Statistics for the General Labor Requirements -- Alameda County

Crops	Acreage	Production
Wheat	5,325	41,440 tons
Barley	17,404	50,322 tons
Oats	10,753	11,555 tons
Hay	195	—
Alfalfa	7,525	19,045 tons
Strawberries	16,511	243,979 bushels
Raspberries	8,730	88,430 bushels
Blackberries	2,751	32,338 bushels
Cherries	2	188 bushels
Peaches	569	75,140 bushels
Vegetable crops†	100	—
Beans (bush)	150	—
Cabbage	2,100	525,000 crates
Carrots	307	1,500 tons
Cauliflower	20	2,000 crates
Chickpeas, field	150	23,800 crates
Onions	20	4,000 crates
Peas	1,000	—
Potatoes	2,000	60,000 bushels
Spinach	1,475	10,000 bushels (25 tons)

(Total acreage and production of crops)

Table 1 continued.

Crops	Acreage	Production
Vegetable crops (continued)		
Spinach	1,809	9,000 tons
Strawberries	250	--
Tomatoes, canning	5,000	25,000 tons
Tomatoes, market	800	2,400 tons
Orchard crops: ‡		
Almonds	200	--
Apples	60	--
Apricots	5,100	12,000 tons -- about 50 per cent of which were dried
Cherries	867	1,700 tons
Figs	17	--
Grapes, wine varieties	3,390	3,400 tons
Peaches, free	90	--
Pears, nearly all Bartlett	500	1,500 tons
Prunes	1,500	1,500 tons (dry weight)
Walnuts	436	250 tons
Currants	107	10,000 crates
Gooseberries	55	--

* Data on field crops from 1935 Census covering 1934 crop year.

† Data on vegetable acreage are from report by C. M. Shiller, Federal-State Crop Reporting Service, Sacramento, with some additions by Gordon Laing, Agricultural Commissioner, Alameda County.

‡ Acreage in fruit crops is from Gordon Laing, Agricultural Commissioner, Alameda County.

Operations Requiring Seasonal Labor and Times of Need

Farm operations requiring the use of seasonal or occasional labor for the various crops raised in Alameda County are indicated in table 2. This tabulation does not include the employing of shed workers needed to wash, pack and prepare various commodities for shipping and marketing.

TABLE 2

Operations Requiring Use of Seasonal Labor and Times of Needs by Crops Alameda County

Crop	Operation	Time of need
Field crops:		
Alfalfa - Demand for seasonal labor is negligible. Most of crop is raised on dairy farms, and work done by regular employees. Possibly a few men needed between April 15 and November 1 for occasional jobs, especially stacking.		
	Baling - (see under hay)	
Grain		June--15 per cent
Barley)	Harvesting by combine (40	July--50 per cent
Wheat)	per cent by seasonal	August--30 per cent
Oats)	workers)	September--5 per cent

(Table continued on next page.)

Table 1 (continued)		Production	
Crops		Acres	
Variable crops (continued)			
Tomatoes, market	800	1,800	9,000 tons
Tomatoes, canning	800	250	25,000 tons
Spinach	1,800	2,000	2,400 tons
Orchard crops			
Apples	2,100	80	12,000 tons -- about 50 per cent of which were dried
Pears	367	1,700	1,700 tons
Plums	17	3,400	3,400 tons
Cherries, wine varieties	2,350	1,800	1,800 tons
Peaches, fruit	60	1,800	1,800 tons (dry weight)
Almonds, nearly all Bartslett	200	250	250 tons
Walnuts	1,500	450	10,000 crates
Prunes	450	107	
Currents	50		

* Data on field crops from 1935 Census covering 1934 to 1937.

† Data on vegetable averages are from report by C. M. Miller, Federal State Crop Reporting Service, Sacramento, with some additions by Gordon Laine, Agricultural Commissioner, Alameda County.

‡ Average in fruit crops is from Gordon Laine, Agricultural Commissioner, Alameda County.

Operations Requiring Seasonal Labor and Times of Need

From operations requiring the use of seasonal or occasional labor for the various crops listed in Alameda County are indicated in Table 2. This table also shows the approximate number of men needed to wash, pack and over-see various commodities for shipping and marketing.

TABLE 2

Operations Requiring Seasonal Labor and Times of Need by Crops
Alameda County

Crop		Operation		Time of need	
Field crops					
Alfalfa - Demand for seasonal labor is especially high between April 15 and November 1 for occasional jobs, especially stacking.					
Hay - Demand for seasonal labor is especially high between April 15 and November 1 for occasional jobs, especially stacking.					
Grain - Demand for seasonal labor is especially high between April 15 and November 1 for occasional jobs, especially stacking.					
Fruit crops - Demand for seasonal labor is especially high between April 15 and November 1 for occasional jobs, especially stacking.					
Vegetable crops - Demand for seasonal labor is especially high between April 15 and November 1 for occasional jobs, especially stacking.					

Table 2 continued

Crop	Operation	Time of year
Field crops (continued) Corn (average annually) Soybeans (average annually)	Harvesting Haying Mowing Raking Shocking Trimming Winnowing	April-10 per cent of acreage May-10 per cent of acreage April-10 per cent of acreage May-20 per cent of acreage May May May-10 per cent of acreage June-10 per cent of acreage July-10 per cent of acreage August-10 per cent of acreage September-10 per cent of acreage October-10 per cent of acreage November-10 per cent of acreage December-10 per cent of acreage
Potatoes	Picking up, sorting, washing, grading	September-10 per cent of acreage October-10 per cent of acreage November-10 per cent of acreage December-10 per cent of acreage
Sugar beets	Thinning	April-10 per cent of acreage May-10 per cent of acreage June-10 per cent of acreage July-10 per cent of acreage August-10 per cent of acreage September-10 per cent of acreage October-10 per cent of acreage November-10 per cent of acreage December-10 per cent of acreage
Vegetable crops	Planting Thinning Weeding Harvesting	April-10 per cent of acreage May-10 per cent of acreage June-10 per cent of acreage July-10 per cent of acreage August-10 per cent of acreage September-10 per cent of acreage October-10 per cent of acreage November-10 per cent of acreage December-10 per cent of acreage

(Table continued on next page)

Table 2 continued.

Crop	Operation	Time of need
Vegetable crops (cont'd)		
Cauliflower, practically all work done by regular employees	Planting ‡	Aug.--8 per cent of acreage Sept.--50 per cent of acreage Oct.--30 per cent of acreage Nov.--6 per cent of acreage Dec.--6 per cent of acreage
	Cutting, trimming and packing	Nov.--8 per cent of acreage Dec.--28 per cent of acreage Jan.--28 per cent of acreage Feb.--22 per cent of acreage Mar.--3 per cent of acreage Apr.--10 per cent of acreage
Cucumbers (pickling)	Thinning and hoeing	May 15-31--50 per cent of acreage June 1-15--50 per cent of acreage
	Picking	July 10-31--25 per cent of crop Aug. 1-31--50 per cent of crop Sept. 1-20--25 per cent of crop
Garlic	Planting ‡	Dec.--50 per cent of acreage Jan.--50 per cent of acreage
	Hoeing (twice)	Feb., Mar., Apr.--two-thirds of acreage each month
	Pull and throw in piles	July
	Clip roots, tops and put in sacks	July
Lettuce (acreage too small to be of much importance)	Thinning	February--20 per cent of acreage June, July--80 per cent of acreage
	Hoeing	March--20 per cent of acreage July, August--80 per cent of acreage
	Cutting	May--20 per cent of acreage Aug., Sept.--80 per cent of acreage
Onions (acreage small) (of little importance in labor demand)	Hoeing	April
	Harvesting (pick up, cut off top, and sack)	October
Peas, market	Hoeing (very little done in Alameda County)	

(Table continued on next page)

Date	Description	Amount
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Table 2 continued.

Crop	Operations	Time of need
Vegetable crops (cont'd)		
Peas, market	Picking	April 1 -- June 15 Apr.-- 50 per cent of crop May--42 per cent of crop June-- 5 per cent of crop Sept.--1 per cent of crop Oct.--1 per cent of crop
Rhubarb	Picking	Mar. 1-31--50 per cent of crop Apr. 1-30--50 per cent of crop
	Washing and packing	Mar. 1-31--50 per cent of crop Apr. 1-30--50 per cent of crop Peak--Mar. 15 - Apr. 15
Spinach (canning)	Hoeing and thinning (on 10 per cent of acreage only)	February 15-25
	Picking	Mar. 15-31--75 per cent of crop Apr. 1-5--25 per cent of crop Peak--Mar. 20-25
Strawberries	Picking	May and June
Tomatoes, canning and market	Transplanting in beds	March 1-31
	Transplanting to field	Apr. 15-30--50 per cent of acreage May 1-15-- 50 per cent of acreage
	Replanting misses	May 15-31--75 per cent of acreage June 1-5--25 per cent of acreage
	Hoeing	May, June, July--33 per cent of acreage each Sept. 1-30--40 per cent of crop
	Picking, cannery	Oct. 1-31--60 per cent of crop Peak--October 1-10
	Picking, market	Aug. 25 - Nov. 1 August--9 per cent of crop Sept.--10 per cent of crop Oct.--80 per cent of crop Nov.--1 per cent of crop
	Cutting vines	Nov. 1-30--75 per cent of acreage cut Dec. 1-31--25 per cent of acreage cut

(Table continued on next page)

Name		Address		Occupation		Remarks	
John Smith		123 Main St		Teacher		Married, 3 children	
Mary Jones		456 Oak Ave		Homemaker		Single	
Robert Brown		789 Elm St		Engineer		Married, 2 children	
Elizabeth White		101 Pine St		Nurse		Married, 1 child	
James Wilson		202 Cedar St		Farmer		Married, 4 children	
Sarah Davis		303 Birch St		Retail		Single	
Michael Miller		404 Maple St		Student		Single	
Patricia Moore		505 Spruce St		Teacher		Married, 2 children	
David Taylor		606 Willow St		Engineer		Married, 1 child	
Jennifer Adams		707 Ash St		Homemaker		Single	
Christopher Baker		808 Hickory St		Student		Single	
Amanda Clark		909 Walnut St		Retail		Married, 2 children	
Daniel Evans		1010 Cherry St		Engineer		Married, 1 child	
Michelle Green		1111 Peach St		Homemaker		Single	
Kevin Hall		1212 Plum St		Student		Single	
Nicole King		1313 Apple St		Teacher		Married, 2 children	
Ryan Lee		1414 Orange St		Engineer		Married, 1 child	
Stephanie Scott		1515 Lemon St		Homemaker		Single	
Tyler Turner		1616 Grape St		Student		Single	
Vanessa Vance		1717 Melon St		Retail		Married, 2 children	
Walter Webb		1818 Olive St		Engineer		Married, 1 child	
Xavier Wright		1919 Pear St		Homemaker		Single	
Yvonne Young		2020 Peach St		Student		Single	
Zoe Ziegler		2121 Apple St		Teacher		Married, 2 children	
Adam Zander		2222 Orange St		Engineer		Married, 1 child	

Table 2 continued.

Crop	Operations	Time of need
Orchard crops:		
Almonds, small acreage in many small holdings. Mostly handled by family labor, with practically no seasonal help.	Pruning	
	Knocking	August, September, October
	Hulling	September, October
Apples, acreage small, of no importance in labor demand.		
Apricots	Pruning and burning brush	Sept. 15-30--5 per cent of acreage Oct.--10 per cent of acreage Nov.--35 per cent of acreage Dec.--45 per cent of acreage Jan. 1-15--15 per cent of acreage
	Thinning Φ	April 15-30--50 per cent of acreage May 1-15--50 per cent of acreage
	Picking	July 5-31--85 per cent of crop Aug. 1-5--15 per cent of crop Peak--July 20
	Cutting for drying	July 5-31--85 per cent of crop Aug. 1-5--15 per cent of crop Peak--July 20
	Other dry yard labor	July 5-31--60 per cent of crop Aug. 1-15--40 per cent of crop
Cherries	Pruning	March--100 per cent of crop
	Picking	May 15-31--25 per cent of crop June 1-30--75 per cent of crop Peak--June 5-20
Figs, acreage insignificant, ignored.		
Grapes, wine varieties	Picking	Sept. 15-30--25 per cent of crop Oct. 1-31--75 per cent of crop Peak--October 1-15
Peaches, free, no commercial acreage. Ignored.		
Pears, Bartlett	Pruning	Nov. 1-30--25 per cent of acreage Dec. 1-31--25 per cent of acreage Jan. 1-31--25 per cent of acreage

(Table continued on next page)

Name	Age	Sex
John Smith	25	Male
Mary Jones	30	Female
Robert Brown	22	Male
Elizabeth White	28	Female
James Wilson	20	Male
Sarah Davis	24	Female
Thomas Miller	21	Male
Anna Taylor	26	Female
Charles Moore	19	Male
Margaret Clark	23	Female
William Lewis	27	Male
Elizabeth Adams	29	Female
George Baker	20	Male
Mary Johnson	25	Female
Richard King	22	Male
Susan Green	24	Female
John Lee	21	Male
Anna Scott	26	Female
Thomas Young	19	Male
Elizabeth Hall	23	Female
Charles Allen	27	Male
Margaret Wright	29	Female
George Hill	20	Male
Mary Young	25	Female
Richard King	22	Male
Susan Green	24	Female
John Lee	21	Male
Anna Scott	26	Female
Thomas Young	19	Male
Elizabeth Hall	23	Female
Charles Allen	27	Male

Table 2 continued.

Crop	Operations	Time of need
Pears, Bartlett (cont'd)	Pruning (cont'd)	Feb. 1-28--25 per cent of acreage
	Hoeing and suckering	Apr. 15-30--25 per cent of acreage
		May 1-31--50 per cent of acreage
		June 1-15--25 per cent of acreage
	Picking	August 1-31
	Cutting for drying	August 1-31
	Other dry yard work	August 1-31
Prunes	Pruning	Nov.--25 per cent of acreage
		Dec.--25 per cent of acreage
		Jan.--25 per cent of acreage
		Feb.--25 per cent of acreage
Walnuts	Picking up	Aug. 15-31--25 per cent of crop
		Sept. 1-30--75 per cent of crop
	Knocking and picking up	Sept. 15-30--20 per cent of crop
		Oct. 1-31--80 per cent of crop
		Sept. 15-30--20 per cent of crop
		Oct. 1-31--80 per cent of crop
Currants	Pruning	Nov. 1-30, Dec. 1-31, Jan. 1-31 = 33 per cent of acreage
	Hoeing	February--100 per cent of acreage
	Picking	June 1-30--100 per cent of acreage
Gooseberries, of small importance. Ignored.		

* Probably 50 per cent of hay production is baled (including alfalfa).

† Only 1/2 of sugar beet acreage is hoed.

‡ Two-thirds cauliflower acreage planted by machine; one-third cauliflower acreage planted by hand.

§ About 25 per cent of tomato vines cut by hand, balance disked under.

¶ Very little apricot thinning done in 1935, and this was practically all by regular employees.

Name	Address	City
John Doe	123 Main St	New York
Jane Smith	456 Elm St	Los Angeles
Bob Johnson	789 Oak St	Chicago
Alice Brown	101 Pine St	San Francisco
Charlie White	202 Cedar St	Houston
Diana Green	303 Birch St	Phoenix
Eve Black	404 Spruce St	Portland
Frank Gray	505 Willow St	Seattle
Grace Hall	606 Ash St	Denver
Henry King	707 Hickory St	San Diego
Ivy Lee	808 Magnolia St	Dallas
Jack Miller	909 Sycamore St	Austin
Karen Wilson	1010 Walnut St	Jacksonville
Leo Young	1111 Chestnut St	Fort Worth
Mia Adams	1212 Locust St	Columbus
Noah Baker	1313 Olive St	Indianapolis
Olivia Carter	1414 Maple St	San Antonio
Peter Davis	1515 Elm St	Nashville
Quinn Evans	1616 Oak St	Cincinnati
Sam Foster	1717 Pine St	St. Louis
Tina Gibson	1818 Cedar St	Milwaukee
Uma Harper	1919 Birch St	Baltimore
Victor Ives	2020 Spruce St	Kansas City
Wendy Jones	2121 Willow St	Omaha

This document is a list of names and addresses for the purpose of a mailing list. The information is organized into three columns: Name, Address, and City. The list includes names such as John Doe, Jane Smith, Bob Johnson, Alice Brown, Charlie White, Diana Green, Eve Black, Frank Gray, Grace Hall, Henry King, Ivy Lee, Jack Miller, Karen Wilson, Leo Young, Mia Adams, Noah Baker, Olivia Carter, Peter Davis, Quinn Evans, Sam Foster, Tina Gibson, Uma Harper, Victor Ives, and Wendy Jones. The addresses are listed in the second column, and the cities are listed in the third column.

Findings of Seasonal Labor Needs.-- Details and summaries of seasonal labor requirements of Alameda County agriculture are presented in table 3. The "size of job" are figures drawn from table 1 in terms of either acreage or output in tons, crates, boxes, or whatever unit is commonly used. The "output per man-day" is an average figure for the entire acreage or output figured in packed crates, hampers, or boxes (in case of fruits and vegetables). If the work is of a nature that requires a crew, different members of which perform different tasks (such as cutting, trimming, loading, and hauling cauliflower; trimming and crating celery, etc.); then the average shown is per man based on the entire crew. Length of day is 9 hours, November to February; 10 hours, March to October, unless otherwise stated. Wide variations in output occur between farm and farm, field and field, and season and season, because of differences in soil types, climatic conditions, weeds, yields, and other factors influencing the amount of work that a laborer can perform in a given day. Moreover, the basis of output is a mature, experienced male worker, without reference to use of women, children, and more or less inexperienced help that is sometimes used in connection with certain of the tasks requiring use of seasonal workers. The column headed "available days" reflects (a) limitations set from the period within which the work must be performed because of the nature of the task, such as transplanting, thinning, weeding, and cutting, and (b) available days as determined by weather conditions, inclement weather reducing the number of days when a required task can be performed. The "required number of individuals" is given in terms of workers as noted above in connection with "output per man-day."

It is probable that the estimated number of workers required, as recorded in table 3, will often be too low, for the reason that "peaks" frequently occur, during which an unusually large proportion of the job is done in a very short period. This would naturally require a much greater number of workers than when the work is spread over a longer period, even though the total amount of labor (in man-days) remains the same.

TABLE 3

Seasonal Labor Needs -- Alameda County -- by Months and Tasks

Month	Crop and task	Size of task	Output per man-day	Required man-days	Available days	Required number of workers
January	Apricots: Pruning	765 acres	0.2 acre	3,825	19	202
	Disposing of brush	765 acres	4 acres	191	19	10
	Pears: Pruning	125 acres	0.25 acre	500	19	26
	Disposing of brush	125 acres	3 acres	42	19	3
	Prunes: Pruning	375 acres	0.25 acre	1,500	19	76
	Disposing of brush	375 acres	3 acres	125	19	7
	Currants: Pruning	35 acres	0.25 acre	140	19	7
February	Totals			6,323	19	333 man-months
	Garlic: Hoeing	33 acres	1 acre	33	10	4 (for 10 days)
	Lettuce: Thinning	30 acres	0.5 acre	60	10	6 (for 10 days)
	Spinach: Hoeing and thinning	150 acres	0.33 acre	450	10	45 (for 10 days)
	Pears: Pruning	125 acres	0.25 acre	500	21	24
	Disposing of brush	125 acres	3 acres	42	21	2
	Prunes: Pruning	375 acres	0.25 acre	1,500	21	71
	Disposing of brush	375 acres	3 acres	125	21	6
	Currants: Hoeing	107 acres	0.33 acre	321	21	15
	Totals			3,031	21	144 man-months
March	Garlic: Hoeing	33 acres	1 acre	33	8	4 (for 8 days)
	Lettuce: Hoeing	30 acres	1 acre	30	5	6 (for 5 days)
	Rhubarb: Picking	185,000 boxes	20 boxes	9,250	23	402*
	Washing and packing	185,000 boxes	30 boxes	6,166	23	268
	Spinach: Picking and putting in crates	6,750 tons	2 tons	3,275	12	273 (from 15th to 31st)
	Tomatoes: Transplanting to beds	7,250,000 plants	5,000 plants	1,450	23	63
	Cherries: Pruning	867 acres	1 acre	867	23	37
April	Totals			21,071	23	916 man-months
	Hay: Mowing	1,400 acres	7 acres	200+	10	20+ (from 20th to 30th)

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Table continued

Month	Crop and task	Size of task	Output per man-day	Required man-days	Available days	Required number of workers
April (cont.)	Hay: (cont.)					
	Raking	1,400 acres	15 acres	93†	10	10†(from 20th to 30th)
	Sugar beets: Thinning	1,100 acres	0.75 acre	1,466	12	122 (for 12 days)
	Garlic: Hoeing	33 acres	1 acre	33	8	4 (for 8 days)
	Peas: Picking	81,250 hampers	8 hampers	10,156	11	923 (from 1st to 15th)
	Picking	108,750 hampers	8 hampers	21,094	12	1,758†(from 15th to 30th)
	Rhubarb: Picking	185,000 boxes	20 boxes	9,250	23	402*
	Washing and packing	185,000 boxes	30 boxes	6,166	23	268
	Spinach: Picking and putting in crates	2,250 tons	2 tons	1,125	5	225 (from 1st to 5th)
	Tomatoes: Transplanting to field	2,900 acres	1 acre	2,900	12	242 (from 15th to 30th)
May	Apricots: ‡ Thinning					
	Pears: Hoeing and suckering					
	Totals	125 acres	2 acres	63	23	3
	Hay: Mowing			52,546	23	2,285 man-months
	Raking	12,600 acres	7 acres	1,800†	24	75
	Shocking	12,600 acres	15 acres	840†	24	35
	Trimming	14,000 acres	30 acres	466†	24	20
	Baling	14,000 acres	10 acres	1,400†	24	58
		1,280 tons	5 tons per 13 hour day	256	6	43 (from 24th to 31st)
	Sugar beets: Thinning	2,200 acres	0.75 acre	2,933	24	122
	Hoeing	1,100 acres	2.5 acres	440	24	18
	Cucumbers: Thinning and Hoeing	200 acres	0.5 acre	400	12	34 (from 15th to 31st)
	Lettuce: Cutting	4,500 crates	30 crates	150	15	10 (for 15 days)
	Peas: Picking	210,000 hampers	8 hampers	26,250	24	1,095
	Tomatoes: Transplanting to field					
	Replanting	2,900 acres	1 acre	2,900	12	242 (from 1st to 15th)
	Hoeing	4,350 acres	4 acres	1,088	24	45
	Apricots: ‡ Thinning	1,930 acres	2 acres	965	24	40
	Cherries: Picking	425 tons	200 pounds	4,250	12	354 (from 15th to 31st)
	Pears: Hoeing and suckering	250 acres	2 acres	125	24	5

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Month	Crop and task	Size of task	Output per man-day	Required man-days	Available days	Required number of workers
May (cont.)	Strawberries: Picking	250 acres	2.5 chests = 240 baskets	4,800	24	200 ♀
June	Totals			49,063	24	2,044 man-months
	Grain: Harvesting with combine	1,500 acres	4 acres	375 #	12	32#(from 15th to 30th)
	Hay: Baling	7,680 tons	5 tons per day of 13 hours	1,536 (of 13 hours)	25	62
	Sugar beets: Hoeing	550 acres	2.5 acres	220	12	18 (for 12 days)
	Cucumbers: Hoeing and thinning	200 acres	0.5 acre	400	12	34 (from 1st to 15th)
	Lettuce: Thinning	45 acres	0.5 acre	90	9	10 (for 9 days)
	Peas: Picking	25,000 hampers	8 hampers	3,125	10	313 (from 1st to 15th)
	Tomatoes: Replanting missing vines	1,450 acres	4 acres	362	12	30 (for 12 days)
	Hoeing	1,930 acres	2 acres	965	25	39
	Cherries: Picking	1,275 tons	200 pounds	12,750	20	638 (from 1st to 20th)
	Pears: Hoeing and suckering	125 acres	2 acres	63	25	3
	Currants: Picking	10,000 crates	9 crates (of 18 pounds each)	1,111	18	62 ♀
	Strawberries: Picking	250 acres	2.5 chests = 240 baskets	5,000	25	200 ♀
July	Totals			25,997	25	1,040 man-months
	Grain: Harvesting with combine	5,000 acres	4 acres	1,250 #	26	48 #
	Hay: Baling	7,680 tons	5 tons per 13 hour day	1,536 (of 13 hours)	26	59
	Cucumbers: Picking	400 acres	0.33 acre	7,200	18	400 (from 1st to 20th)
	Lettuce: Thinning	75 acres	0.5 acre	150	10	15 (for 10 days)
	Hoeing	45 acres	1 acre	45	9	5 (for 9 days)
	Tomatoes: Hoeing	1,930 acres	2 acres	965	25	39
	Apricots: Picking	10,200 tons	1,000 pounds	20,400	25	816** (from 5th to 31st)
	Cutting for drying	5,100 tons	750 pounds	13,600	25	544 (from 5th to 31st)
	Other dry yard work	---	--	1,943	25	78 (from 5th to 31st)
	1/7 of cutting labor	---		47,089	26	1,811 man-months
	Totals					

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Table continued.

Month	Crop and task	Size of task	Output per man-day	Required man-days	Available days	Required number of workers
August	Grain: Harvesting by combine	3,000 acres	4 acres	750 #	26	29
	Hay: Baling	7,680 tons	5 tons per 13 hour day	1,536 (of 13 hours)	26	59
	Sugar beets: Topping and loading	9,330 tons	5 tons	1,866	26	72
	Cucumbers: Picking ++	400 acres	0.33 acre	12,000	26	460
	Lettuce: Hoeing	75 acres	1 acre	75	10	8 (for 10 days)
	Cutting	6,750 crates	30 crates	225	20	12 (for 20 days)
	Tomatoes: Picking for market	216 tons	1,200 pounds	360	5	72 (from 25th to 31st)
	Apricots: Picking	1,800 tons	1,000 pounds	3,600	5	720 (from 1st to 5th)
	Cutting for drying	900 tons	750 pounds	2,400	5	480 (from 1st to 5th)
	Other dry yard work (1/7 of cutting labor)	--	--	343	5	70 (from 1st to 5th)
	Pears: Picking 500 acres	1,500 tons	1,200 pounds	2,500	26	95 #
	Cutting for drying	225 tons	1,000 pounds	450	26	18 #
	Other dry yard work (Same amount as cutting)	--	--	450	26	18 #
September	Prunes: Picking up	375 tons	1,400 pounds	536	12	45 (from 15th to 31st)
	Totals			27,091	26	1,042 man-months
	Grain: Harvesting by combine	500 acres	4 acres	125	5	25 (from 1st to 5th)
	Hay: Baling	1,280 tons	5 tons per day of 13 hours	256 (of 13 hours)	6	43 (from 1st to 6th)
	Potatoes: Harvesting, picking up, sorting and sacking	10,750 sacks	25 sacks	430	25	18 #
	Sugar beets: Topping and loading	9,330 tons	5 tons	1,866	25	75
	Cucumbers: Picking	400 acres	0.33 acre	7,200	18	400 (from 1st to 20th)
	Lettuce: Cutting	11,250 crates	30 crates	375	25	15
	Peas: Picking	5,000 hampers	7 hampers	714	14	51 (for 14 days)
	Tomatoes: Picking for cannery	10,000 tons	2,400 pounds	8,333	25	333

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Table 1: Summary of data for the first section. The table contains several rows of data, including numerical values and categorical labels.

Table 2: Summary of data for the second section. The table contains several rows of data, including numerical values and categorical labels.

Table 3: Summary of data for the third section. The table contains several rows of data, including numerical values and categorical labels.

Table 4: Summary of data for the fourth section. The table contains several rows of data, including numerical values and categorical labels.

Table 5: Summary of data for the fifth section. The table contains several rows of data, including numerical values and categorical labels.

Table 6: Summary of data for the sixth section. The table contains several rows of data, including numerical values and categorical labels.

Table 7: Summary of data for the seventh section. The table contains several rows of data, including numerical values and categorical labels.

Table 8: Summary of data for the eighth section. The table contains several rows of data, including numerical values and categorical labels.

Table continued.

Month	Crop and task	Size of task	Output per man-day	Required man-days	Available days	Required number of workers
September (cont.)	Tomatoes (cont.)					
	Picking for market	240 tons	1,200 pounds	400	12	34 (for 12 days)
	Apricots: Pruning	250 acres	0.2 acre	1,250	12	104 (from 15th to 30th)
	Disposing of brush	250 acres	4 acres	63	12	5 (from 15th to 30th)
	Grapes: Picking	850 tons	1 ton	850	12	71 (from 15th to 30th)
October	Prunes: Picking up	1,125 tons	1,400 pounds	1,607	25	64
	Walnuts: Knocking and picking up	50 tons	200 pounds	500	12	42 (from 15th to 30th)
	Totals			23,969	25	959 man-months
	Potatoes: Harvesting, picking up, sorting, and sacking	21,500 sacks	25 sacks	430 //	25	18 //
	Sugar beets: Topping and loading	9,330 tons	5 tons	1,866	25	75
November	Cauliflower: Planting by hand	160 acres	0.5 acre	--	25	--
	Planting by machine	470 acres	2 acres	--	25	--
	Peas: Picking	5,000 hampers	7 hampers	714	14	51 (for 14 days)
	Tomatoes: Picking for cannery (during peak)	8,300 tons	2,400 pounds	6,916	10	692 (from 1st to 10th)
	Picking for cannery	6,700 tons	2,400 pounds	5,583	20	279 (from 10th to 31st)
	Picking for market	1,920 tons	1,200 pounds	3,200	25	128
	Apricots: Pruning	510 acres	0.2 acre	2,550	25	102
	Disposing of brush	510 acres	4 acres	127	25	5
	Grapes: Picking	2,550 tons	1 ton	2,550	20	128 (from 1st to 25th)
	Walnuts: Knocking and picking up	200 tons	200 pounds	2,000	25	80
	Totals			25,936	25	1,036 man-months
	Sugar beets: Topping and loading	9,330 tons	5 tons	1,866	24	78
	Tomatoes: Picking for market	24 tons	1,200 pounds	40	2	20 (first 2 or 3 days)
	Cutting vines by hand	1,050 acres	5 acres	210	24	9
	Apricots: Pruning	1,785 acres	0.2 acre	8,925	24	372
	Disposing of brush	1,785 acres	4 acres	446	24	19
	Pears: Pruning	125 acres	0.25 acre	500	24	21

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Table continued

Month	Crop and task	Size of task	Output per man-day	Required man-days	Available days	Required number of workers
November (cont.)	Pears (cont.)					
	Disposing of brush	125 acres	3 acres	42	24	2
	Prunes: Pruning	350 acres	0.25 acre	1,400	24	58
	Disposing of brush	350 acres	3 acres	117	24	5
	Currants: Pruning	35 acres	0.25 acre	140	24	6
December	Totals			13,686	24	570 man-months
	Sugar beets: Topping and loading	4,150 tons	5 tons	830	10	83 (from 1st to 10th)
	Tomatoes: Cutting vines by hand	350 acres	5 acres	70	7	10 (for 7 days)
	Apricots: Pruning	1,785 acres	0.2 acre	8,925	19	470
	Disposing of brush	1,785 acres	4 acres	446	19	23
	Pears: Pruning	125 acres	0.25 acre	500	19	26
	Disposing of brush	125 acres	3 acres	42	19	3
	Prunes: Pruning	350 acres	0.25 acre	1,400	19	72
	Disposing of brush	350 acres	3 acres	117	19	6
	Currants: Pruning	35 acres	0.25 acre	140	19	8
	Totals			12,470	19	656 man-months

* Reports indicate there was a demand for about 1,000 workers for harvesting rhubarb at the peak in 1935, including washing and packing.

† Probably 50 per cent of haying work, except baling, is done by regular employees. Figures are for seasonal workers.

‡ In late April, at peak of pea picking, there are probably 3,000 pickers in Alameda County.

§ Very little thinning of apricots done in 1935, and this was mostly by regular employees. On years when set of fruit is heavy, thinning may require almost as many men as picking.

¶ Estimated at one seasonal worker for each 1 1/3 acres picking strawberries a continuous operation.

|| Probably 60 per cent of men on combined harvesters are operators and regular employees, and are therefore not included in the figure given.

¶ Reports indicate that about 200 workers were needed for picking currants in 1935.

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Footnotes continued.

** There were probably 1,500 or 2,000 apricot pickers employed in 1935 at the peak.

†† Cucumber picking is a continuous operation -- the whole patch being picked over every 2 or 3 days.

‡‡ The number of workers picking and drying pears may have been considerably higher at peak times.

§§ Practically all work on cauliflower is done by regular employees.

¶¶ About 50 per cent or more of potato harvesting is done by regular employees, who are not included in the figure given.

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